

Message Text

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21 15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAJ-01

DRC-01 /186 W

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R 171526Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3138

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12932

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: RUMORED COMMUNIST LEADERSHIP MEETING

REF: MOSCOW 12483

1. ROMANIAN EMBASSY SOURCE OCTOBER 17 PASSED TO US
RUMOR THAT SOVIETS ARE CONSIDERING SEEKING
ATTENDANCE OF LEADERS OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES (ASIAN
AS WELL AS EUROPEAN) FOR OPENING SESSION OF CONGRESS OF
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PEACE-LOVING FORCES OCTOBER 25. SOURCE SAID AS FAR AS HE

KNEW SOVIETS HAD NOT MADE FORMAL PROPOSAL.

2. ASKED WHETHER ME SITUATION MIGHT FIGURE IN SOVIET MOTIVES FOR SUCH A MOVE, SOURCE SAID IDEA HAD BEEN FLOATING AROUND BEFORE CURRENT ME CRISIS AND THAT PRESUMED SOVIET OBJECTIVE WAS TO ELEVATE IMPORTANCE OF CONGRESS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT -- IF RUMOR PROVED TRUE -- SOVIETS WOULD CERTAINLY SEEK A JOINT DECLARATION ON ME. NATURALLY, HE SAID, THIS WOULD PRESENT ENORMOUS PROBLEMS FOR CEAUSESCU. HE OFFERED PERSONAL SPECULATION THAT, IF SOVIETS WERE UNABLE TO PERSUADE LARGE MAJORITY OF PARTY LEADERS TO ATTEND, THEY WOULD ABANDON IDEA.

3. WE HAVE NO INDEPENDENT CORROBORATION OF THIS RUMOR AND ROMANIAN WAS CAREFUL TO PRESENT IT TENTATIVELY. HE NEVERTHELESS DISPLAYED SOME CONCERN ABOUT IT. FOR THE SOVIETS THE RISKS ARE OBVIOUS OF SUCH A MEETING AT A DELICATE TIME IN ME CRISIS, AS ARE THE DIFFICULTIES IN ORGANIZING IT. MOREOVER, IT WOULD CHANGE CHARACTER OF CONGRESS, WHICH SOVIETS HAVE PORTRAYED AS NON-GOVERNMENTAL AND BROADLY APPEALING TO WIDE RANGE OF POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (REFTEL). STILL, WE WOULD NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT SOVIETS MIGHT THINK THIS AN ATTRACTIVE WAY TO INFLATE CONGRESS, TO REINFORCE COMMUNIST SOLIDARITY, TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR FIDELITY TO ARABS, AND TO DRAMATIZE CHINESE ISOLATION.
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30 JUN 2005

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